

been the victims of a widespread and well-documented pattern and practice of discrimination by German Federal, State, local, and party officials;

Whereas the 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996 United States Department of State Country Reports on Human Rights in Germany all noted government discrimination against members of the Church of Scientology in Germany;

Whereas the German State of Baden-Wuerttemberg barred Chic Corea, the Grammy Award-winning American jazz pianist, from performing his music during the World Athletics Championship in 1993, and in 1996 the State of Bavaria declared its intention to bar Mr. Corea from all future performances at State sponsored events solely because he is a member of the Church of Scientology;

Whereas the Young Union of the Christian Democratic Union and the Social Democratic Party orchestrated boycotts of the movies "Phenomenon" and "Mission Impossible" solely because the lead actors, Americans John Travolta and Tom Cruise, are members of the Church of Scientology;

Whereas members of the Young Union of the Christian Democratic Union disrupted a 1993 performance by the American folk music group Golden Bough by storming the stage solely because the musicians are members of the Church of Scientology;

Whereas the Evangelical Christian Church of Cologne, led by an American clergyman, Dr. Terry Jones, had its tax-exempt status revoked by the German government with the reason being that the church benefits to society were of "no spiritual, cultural, or material value";

Whereas the German government is constitutionally obligated to remain neutral on religious matters, yet has violated this neutrality by supporting and distributing information to the general public that gives the impression that "sect-experts", who are openly critical of all but the major churches, are in a position to provide the public with fair, objective, and politically neutral information about minority religions;

Whereas the Jehovah's Witnesses' application for recognition as a corporation under public law, which would have put them on equal legal status with the Catholic and Protestant churches, was denied by the Federal Administrative Court because the church's doctrine of political neutrality was considered to be antidemocratic;

Whereas government officials and "sect-experts" are using the decision denying the Jehovah's Witnesses recognition as a corporation under public law as a justification for discriminatory acts against the Jehovah's Witnesses, despite the fact that a constitutional complaint is still pending before the German Constitutional Court;

Whereas adherents of the Muslim faith have reported that they are routinely subject to police violence and intimidation because of their ethnic and religious affiliation;

Whereas the 1994 and 1995 Reports to the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations on the application of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion and Belief by the Special Rapporteur for Religious Intolerance criticized Germany for restricting the religious liberty of certain minority religious groups;

Whereas Germany, as a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Helsinki Accords, is obliged to refrain from religious discrimination and to foster a climate of tolerance; and

Whereas Germany's policy of discrimination against minority religions violates German obligations under the Universal Dec-

laration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Helsinki Accords: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) continues to hold Germany responsible for protecting the rights of United States citizens who are living, performing, doing business, or traveling in Germany, in a manner consistent with Germany's obligations under international agreements to which Germany is a signatory;

(2) deplores the actions and statements of Federal, State, local, and party officials in Germany which have fostered an atmosphere of intolerance toward certain minority religious groups;

(3) expresses concern that artists from the United States who are members of minority religious groups continue to experience German government discrimination;

(4) urges the German government to take the action necessary to protect the rights guaranteed to members of minority religious groups by international covenants to which Germany is a signatory; and

(5) calls upon the President of the United States—

(A) to assert the concern of the United States Government regarding German government discrimination against members of minority religious groups;

(B) to emphasize that the United States regards the human rights practices of the Government of Germany, particularly its treatment of American citizens who are living, performing, doing business, or traveling in Germany, as a significant factor in the United States Government's relations with the Government of Germany; and

(C) to encourage other governments to appeal to the Government of Germany, and to cooperate with other governments and international organizations, including the United Nations and its agencies, in efforts to protect the rights of foreign citizens and members of minority religious groups in Germany.

A TRIBUTE TO RUBY GIBSON FOR 80 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO VETERANS

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rubye Gibson, for her 80 years of outstanding service to our veterans. On November 11, 1997, during the city of Montebello's Veterans Day ceremony, the community will honor Rubye for her lifetime of dedication to the men and women of our nation's Armed Forces.

As the last surviving president of the Ladies Auxiliary Barracks No. 5, the fifth veterans organization in the United States, Rubye demonstrated tremendous leadership during World War I. During World War II she was a mail carrier for the city of Montebello. Of the period in our Nation's history, Rubye recalls having the fortunate experience of shaking hands with Gen. Jimmy Doolittle and being invited to meet Gen. Omar Bradley. Her lifetime of experience and work with veterans has earned her the respect and admiration of her colleagues and community members.

Ruby comes from a long line of family members dedicated to serving our country. It was at the age of 13, when her brother, while

fighting in France received wounds that would keep him hospitalized for 2 years, that Rubye decided the only way she could help her brother was to work with veterans. For the past 80 years, Rubye has kept her commitment to helping our Nation's veterans through her volunteer work with the Veterans of foreign Wars. To this day, she remains relentless in her effort to sell "buddy poppies" to help hospitalized and indigent veterans.

Along with an unwavering dedication to help our veterans, Rubye has displayed a genuine interest and concern for our community's children. In rural South Dakota, Rubye's career as a school teacher was cut short because, in that day in age, it was unacceptable for a married woman to teach. For 18 years, Rubye volunteered her time to the Dorothy Kirby Center and to the Foster Grandparent Program, where she worked with mentally disturbed children.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise today to pay tribute to Rubye Gibson for her lifetime of service to our Nation's veterans. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Rubye for her 80 years of selfless commitment to the men and women who have proudly served our country in the Armed Forces.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, another day and still no campaign finance reform. We are here on a Saturday trying to finish our legislative business. We have made an extraordinary effort to finish our work so that Members may be able to go home before Veterans Day for the rest of the year. Yet we haven't considered campaign finance reform.

With the possibility of only 1 day left in this session it is obvious that the leadership has no desire to allow a vote. This is too bad. A majority of the Members of this House have signed on to campaign finance reform legislation. A majority of the public wants to see an end to the abuses of the system. The leadership has said no. The public knows that there will be no reform passed next year, during an election year. The leadership of this House has failed the people it is sworn to represent.

AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 8, 1997

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I intend to vote for this bill. I look forward to research funding that can assist in finding out the cause of the fish kills in my State, and the origin of the *Pfisteria* that has plagued our waterways. I also look forward to those provisions that will be of benefit to the 1890 land grant Institutions. But, I rise to express my deep concern with the fate of this bill in conference.

Last year, this Congress pushed through major welfare reform legislation. While I supported welfare reform, I did not support those